House of Representatives

Statement of U.S. Representative Gene Green "GOP Adult Moment is Long Overdue" July 27, 2011

Mr. Speaker, members of the House leadership have walked away from the negotiating table three times and continue to push their plan to cut Medicare, Social Security, and Medicaid benefits, to protect the top 2 percent of Americans at the expense of 98 percent of our families, pass a short-term deal that would lead to credit downgrade, higher interest rates, and a tax hike on every American and repeat this crisis next year.

Let me read you some emails that I've received:

"I'm a disabled 57- year-old gentleman who is restricted in a wheelchair. I thank God I live in a country where I am able to receive disability income like millions of other disabled Americans and Social Security recipients. I'm afraid if the Republican Leadership gets their way, I'll soon be living on the street."

"I'm very concerned that the default would cause even more dire straits for the average homeowner/worker than ever currently exists. That does not even count the repercussion that would result from higher interest rates, a falling dollar in the global economy, and lower earnings on annuities and other investments, such as decreasing principles."

What we need is not a Republican plan or a Democratic plan; we need an American plan to deal with our debt that will take care of it so we don't have all of these dire consequences next Tuesday.